

COMING SOON:

COLLEGE NIGHT SCORES AND JUDGES' COMMENTS

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13 indicted in Russian meddling investigation

By WAID JONES



Robert Mueller looks on during a news conference in the Rose Garden of the White House on June 21, 2013, in Washington, D.C.
Photo by Oliver Doulery.

A Grand Jury recently handed down an indictment of 13 Russian Nationals and three Russian companies for meddling in the 2016 Presidential Election Cycle. The 37-page indictment details the ways in which the Internet Research Agency, and two other companies, spent millions of dollars and employed hundreds in an attempt to conduct what it called “information warfare against the United States of America.”

President Donald Trump, claiming to be vindicated by these indictments responded in a Tweet saying, “The Trump Campaign did nothing wrong—no collusion!”

Starting in 2014 the Internet Research Agency began stealing the identities of Americans as well as creating fraudulent identities for their workers, allowing them to begin a widespread disinformation campaign within the US political system.

“Spreading distrust towards candidates and the political sys-

tem in general,” was the main goal of the Internet Research Agency, as stated in the indictment

The efforts were funded and partially overseen by Yevgeniy Progozhin, a Russian oligarch who supposedly funded the Internet Research Agency. Progozhin also has close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin and is often being referred to as “Putin’s Chef.”

Progozhin controlled the agency’s parent company Concord Management and Consulting LLC who reported a monthly budget for what they called “Project Lakhta,” of the equivalent of 1.25 million dollars.

Project Lakhta is believed to be the overarching Russian project to sow political discord both foreign and domestic. Their targets included various countries, including the US and the Russian Federation itself.

The indictment states that the Internet Research Agency initially targeted fault lines within

American politics, aiming a large amount of resources at the Black Lives Matter Movement and promoting white nationalist groups.

The group told their personnel to create, “political intensity through supporting radical groups,” they would often attempt to schedule BLM rallies at the same time as those of white nationalist groups as was outlined in earlier Congressional hearings on the group’s activities.

The group’s attacks did not target an individual group, or issue, as they organized rallies for both then-candidate Trump and Hillary Clinton. In one instance, Project Lakhta allegedly paid an American to stand in a cage dressed as Clinton in a prison uniform.

Eventually, however the group focused their attacks on Hillary Clinton, Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio. An internal memo was released around February 2016 stating that they should, “use any

opportunity to criticize Hillary and the rest (except Sanders and Trump – we support them).”

Most of their personnel were used to maintain the internal infrastructure of the group. However, a department internally referred to as the “translator project” employed more than 80 people and was designed to carry out their subversion of both the Federal Election Commission and the U.S. Department of State.

Their main tactics were posing as American citizens and using their identities to buy political ads as well as post in and create groups on social media sites. They would often use Facebook to organize political rallies as well as to coordinate and pay outside individuals to attend these rallies held within the United States.

The group is also accused of requisitioning American based servers. These sites were purchased to set up virtual private networks, or VPNS, that were used to

disguise the group’s actual location in Russia.

Beginning in 2014 the group conducted in depth research into the United State political climate as well as the impacts social media can have on elections, no fewer than two of the defendants named in the indictment traveled to the US on false pretenses to conduct fact finding missions, with a third having been denied the necessary visa.

During and after these fact-finding visits they would use false personas to contact grassroots organizers to determine how and where their money should be spent. In talking with grassroots organizers across the US the organization learned their money was best spent in targeting “purple states,” or swing states, such as Colorado, Virginia and Florida.

The efforts of the Internet Research Agency did not stop at the end of the election, with the group having organized a rally in New York after the election called, “Trump is NOT my President.”

Russian foreign actors are still, as the New York Times reported on Monday, attempting to impact the political conversation within the United States. Several Twitter accounts believed to be connected with Russia were tweeting on both sides of the gun reform debate after a mass shooting on Feb. 14 left 17 dead in Parkland, Florida.

These indictments are unlikely to lead to arrests; the Justice Department has made a history of indicting foreign nationals as a way to publicly disgrace them. Few of these individuals have ever faced trial within the United States, however their ability to travel internationally has been greatly affected.

Montevallo residents discuss language of Non-Discrimination Ordinance

By GEORDIE KENNEDY

On the night of Monday, Feb. 19, residents of Montevallo gathered at UMOM for a second time to discuss the proposed Non-Discrimination Ordinance, or NDO, for the city. Monday’s forum was the second of its kind hosted by the city council. Other forums in the past months have been hosted by groups not directly affiliated with the city of Montevallo.

The forum’s intent was to discuss the specific language of the ordinance, not to air opinions or start a debate on the subject at large. Before the night’s discussions began, moderators laid out the specifics of the meeting, including things in the ordinance that residents liked, any possible suggestions and “must haves” or

“must nots” that attendees might have.

The ordinance at hand would be an addition to the Montevallo Municipal Code, Chapter 16, Article 4, enacting legal protections against discrimination within the City of Montevallo. In particular, employers would be susceptible to filings related to the ordinance. This aspect of the document has caused worry among local business owners, generating much of the counter argument present in previous forums.

The many students and Montevallo residents present at the forum were divided into groups of around 20 and moved into separate rooms in UMOM. Once settled, the rooms were divided

into smaller groups in order to more effectively and personally discuss the ordinance.

Discussion among the groups remained, for the most part, calm and focused on the particulars of the ordinance. Those of differing opinion came together to better understand the legislation and adjust it to best suit its populous.

The night’s focus ranged from broad implications of the legal language in the ordinance to highly specific points of the document’s wording. Concerns raised included the specific definitions of the groups protected, such as the ordinance’s mention of disabilities and the term’s contextual meaning. Other such concerns focused on the use of the recently

removed phrase “real or perceived” in reference to the status of those protected. Notes taken during the discussion are going to be processed by the city council and taken into consideration for the final draft of the ordinance.

H.G McGoy, a long time Montevallo resident spoke in support of the forum. “I think everybody will work together, I really do,” said McGoy, “It’s not going to be a big deal.” McGoy’s sentiment was echoed by many leaving the event. While some still remain in opposition to the ordinance at its roots, many believe to have found a compromise on the issue.

The NDO has changed considerably in the two years since its proposal to the City council

by the Montevallo Acceptance Project, but many involved believe that the initial sentiment has been preserved throughout its iterations.

Dr. Hollie Cost, the Mayor of Montevallo, led the talks as a whole and was similarly instrumental in the organization of the first NDO forum. Cost and the City Council do not intend to host any further forums on the topic. Cost stands by the implementation of the ordinance saying, “I feel like truly having an ordinance that protects people is important and I want everybody to have the same rights and privileges that I do.”

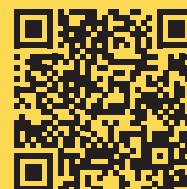
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Survivors silenced in the wake of Parkland shooting

By ROBIN STEVENS

Much commentary has been made regarding the Parkland, Florida school shooting. Republicans, Democrats and unaffiliated individuals all have an opinion on the tragedy and their opinions vary wildly. Some people are calling for concealed carry by teachers; others, particularly Parkland High students, are calling for harsher gun control laws.

A video of a speech given by Emma Gonzalez, a student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and survivor of the shooting, recently went viral. In the video, she criticizes lawmakers who accept money from the National Rifle Association and criticizes them for the sending of “thoughts and prayers” rather than policy changes which could make it more difficult to obtain guns.

Responses to her speech have been mixed. Many adults support Gonzalez and children like herself using their voices to call attention to an issue which has immediately affected them. Some are not so appreciative.

Political commentator Dinesh D’Souza lambasted the students over Twitter, saying, “How interesting to hear students who can’t support themselves for one day giving us lectures about American social policy.” He responded to news of Florida legislators’

rejection to a bill to ban assault rifles with the words, “Adults 1, kids 0” and a photograph of the survivors watching as the bill is voted down, “Worst news since their parents told them to get summer jobs.”

D’Souza is not the only adult dissatisfied with the survivors’ response. Radio host Rush Limbaugh claimed that the survivors were being used by the left to help take away gun rights. In addition, he called for concealed carry in schools as a potential solution to the problem of gun violence.

Even normal U.S. citizens are fighting the survivors. “Forgive me for losing sympathy for the victims of the #ParklandSchool-Shooting . They are turning Parkland into a liberal circus against the #2ndAmendment rights of the people. Students and teachers aren’t mourning they’re on a tirade for #guncontrol !” one tweet from user seanbianca reads.

The general idea appears to be this: survivors of the Parkland shooting need to stay quiet about their experiences and ideas, and if they speak up, it is liberal propaganda. But why is that?

Adults complain that teenagers spend too much time on social media. Gonzalez and her fellow survivors have used other means to spread their message,



Hundreds of high school and middle school students gather in front of the White House in support of gun control in the wake of the Florida shooting. Photo by Oliver Doulery.

speaking directly to news sources. “Kids these days” are called lazy, but the survivors are busy planning a demonstration for March 24. Adults complain that teenagers are uninformed but there can be few life experiences more informative than living through a school shooting.

There are two major factors at play here. The first is ageism. Ageism is prejudice based on a person’s age. Adults often dismiss teenagers as inexperienced and uninformed due to age, while a

teenager may have studied a subject more in-depth than an adult may have. This operates in more directions than one, as someone younger may dismiss someone older as “behind on the times” or disconnected from reality rather than acknowledging their experience.

Ageism is simply one tool used to discredit those who believe differently. The other issue is partisanship. As a culture, we are very reluctant to listen to the beliefs of those who disagree with

us even though most everyone has valuable insight to offer based on their own life experiences.

The Parkland survivors should give our nation hope for a new generation who cares deeply about issues which will affect our lives. Instead, we have allowed our own prejudices to deepen the chasm between the left and right. These survivors deserve our support and support should not be a partisan issue.

Marvel’s ‘Black Panther’ is a royal thrill

By MOIRA McDONALD

“You’re a good man, with a good heart,” a father tells his son, in a vision. “And it is hard for a good man to be king.”

“Black Panther” the story of how that son enters his legacy as both king and superhero, unfolds like every other big-deal comic-book movie in the best of ways. Goodness prevails, evil is punished, zippy suits and gadgets are unveiled and some butts get well and truly kicked.

But, as you may have heard, this movie is different from those that preceded it in the Marvel Comics universe: Its hero is black and African, and most of its cast is black, as is its director and co-writer, Ryan Coogler. And that difference makes it all the more invigorating.

Like “Wonder Woman” last year, it’s thrilling to see a superhero movie populated with people generally on the sidelines in such films. A lot of us haven’t seen much of ourselves as heroes on screen; movies like these are part of a step forward. Granted,

it’s taken a while: Black Panther first appeared in a Marvel comic back in 1966.

Played with calm majesty by Chadwick Boseman, Black Panther is the superhero identity of T’Challa, the newfound king of the African nation of Wakanda after the death of his father, in “Captain America: Civil War.”

Wakanda, a country never colonized, is depicted in the world media as a place of poverty and backwardness. In reality, it’s a beautiful and technologically advanced place, thanks to its rich reserves of vibranium: an ore with energy-manipulating qualities that’s very handy in creating superhero suits and other things.

Nothing ever goes smoothly for the title character in a comic-book movie; if it did, why would we show up? T’Challa finds himself threatened by an old nemesis the evil Klaue; appropriately pronounced “claw,” and played by Andy Serkis, and a new adversary known as Killmonger, played by Michael B.

Jordan, whose name is a reminder that things are often not subtle in the Marvel world.

Backing up T’Challa are a formidable line of women: his mother Ramonda played by Angela Bassett, whose steely presence would be an asset to every superhero movie); younger sister Shuri represented by newcomer Letitia Wright; love interest/ally Nakia played by Oscar winner Lupita Nyong’o, of “12 Years a Slave”; a Wakandan spy; and the all-female security force known as the Dora Milaje, led by the fierce Okoye. All of these women clearly have T’Challa’s number; for a superhero, he puts up with a lot of teasing.

Coogler is a young filmmaker, this is just his third feature, following “Fruitvale Station” and “Creed” but he marshals this world with confidence and flair. The action sequences are insanely fun: watch as Guri-ra, in a fight scene, effortlessly wrangles a floaty red evening gown while kicking butt, and

dispatches a bad guy by throwing her wig at him. Do NOT mess with the Dora Milaje. Wright, whose character is the designated gadget-maker, who during battle, sports vibranium-shooting panther paws, brings enchanting little-sister glee; and Nyong’o, who the camera adores, brings her own brand of light to every scene.

Boseman, the quiet center around which the movie whirls, makes an appealing hero: As Black Panther, he moves with the grace of a cat; as T’Challa, he exudes decency and wisdom. He is, as his father reminds him, a good man. He also, in the department of Aspirational Things Learned From Comic-Book Movies, can control his superhero suit with his mind, something I would like to do with my wardrobe. He’ll be back, in “The Avengers: Infinity War” later this spring; but I’m looking forward to returning to Wakanda, soon.

Opinion: Shut up and report the news

By WAID JONES

I want to start by saying that I am a Democrat; I’ve volunteered for Democratic campaigns, I am the vocal millennial that the Republican Party hates. That doesn’t, however, change the fact that a Fox News anchor, Laura Ingraham, recently crossed a very important line. My political alignment doesn’t change that a news anchor decided to attack someone merely for having an opinion.

On Feb. 15, the Cleveland Cavaliers’, LeBron James, and the Oklahoma City Thunder’s Kevin Durant, did an interview with Cari Champion. During this interview James was asked a simple question, “How would you describe the climate for an athlete with a platform now-a-days and want to talk about what’s happening in our world?”

He responded by criticizing the current president saying, “the number one job in America the appointed person is someone who doesn’t understand the people,” adding that Trump doesn’t seem to care about those

he represents.

James said that kids growing up now can’t really look up to this president, later adding that, “while we can’t change what comes out of that man’s mouth, we can alert people that watch us and that listen to us that this is not the way.”

His response to this would trigger a rant on the part of Ingraham which was not only reprehensible and disgusting, vile and racist or any other myriad of adjectives but shows that this anchor has no understanding of the basic tenets of American Democracy.

Ingraham called James’ remarks unintelligible, vulgar, and asked how he could use such language in criticizing our president; bringing the grammar of James’ statements into question and her only true critique of the content was wondering why should “they” have an opinion.

At the end of her rather lengthy segment dedicated to James’ comments she told both of the athletes to, “Shut up and

Dribble,” cementing the racist and condescending nature of her segment.

Ingraham responded poorly. On her show a day later, she brought two African American political pundits, one of which was a former NFL athlete on to her show to further discount Durant and James’ ideas.

While defending her remarks expressing that athletes shouldn’t have political opinions, it’s odd that Ingraham brings in an athlete to discuss the issue, then emphasizing how long they’ve been friends, implying that if she was racist they would have noticed by now.

It is part of the fabric of American democracy to speak out, and Ingraham seems to forget that her own platform is based on those same rights, that her broadcast was not informative or informational as a news broadcast show should be, but instead an attack on basic human rights.

That Ingraham seeks not to be a journalist but a political pundit

herself is unsettling, as her qualifications for the job seem only to be derived from years of reporting the news poorly and writing books with titles such as, “Shut up and Sing,” or telling Jimmy Kimmel to, “Shut Up and Make Us Laugh.”

Ingraham’s history of using this phrasing was the crux of her argument for not being racist. Ingraham stated that she’s been making these comments, telling comedians, actresses, actors and others she defines as the “hollywood elite,” to stop having opinions because of their jobs.

As a journalist you’re supposed to report the news in a non-biased way, Ingraham showed that night that instead of being a journalist she wants to insult and belittle celebrities, so if Ingraham wants to retain any of her journalistic integrity I’d say that she needs to Shut up and Report the News.

HAVE AN
OPINION?

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SGA raises funds for Shelby County SafeHouse

By CALEB JONES

On Feb. 12 and 13, Montevallo Freshman Forum hosted Be My Vallo Valentine outside of Anna Irving Dining Hall. The event was aimed at selling candy grams to raise money for SafeHouse of Shelby County, an organization dedicated to offering aid and counseling to survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

Domestic violence is a big problem in the US, and according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence: 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men will be victims of intimate partner violence at some point in their lifetime.

So what exactly is domestic and sexual violence? SafeHouse defines domestic abuse as “a pattern of behavior in any relationship used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, including any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure, or wound someone”.

This usually happens within cycles, where a victim may be abused, then for a while the relationship may seem happy and normal, as the aggressor may seemingly “change” for the better; but, these intervals are usually then followed by more increased tension and abuse. This situation can play out over months, or it can go through a whole cycle in

the course of a day.

Despite common beliefs that say otherwise, domestic abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of how old they are, what gender, sexual orientation, education level, socioeconomic status or religion. Abuse also occurs in many forms, namely physical, sexual, emotional, financial, psychological, technological and spiritual.

SafeHouse also helps victims of sexual violence, which they define as “a crime that occurs when an assailant forces sexual contact upon a person without their consent, or who is incapable of providing consent, either due to their age or physical or mental capacity”.

Sexual Violence includes: rape, incest, child molestation, marital rape, exposure and sodomy. SafeHouse offers 24/7 services for sexual assault survivors, such as forensic exams, counseling and legal advocacy. All of which are free and confidential.

To learn more about SafeHouse and their services, call 205-6691877 or visit www.safehouse.org.

If you are experiencing domestic are sexual violence, you can contact their 24-Hour Crisis Line : (205) 669-7233 (SAFE)

Daniel Franzese elicits laughs, provokes thought

By JAMIE HAAS

14 years following the release of cult favorite film “Mean Girls,” actor Daniel Franzese, who played the effervescent Damian, has undertaken the task of creating an original stand-up special. It was this endeavor that brought Franzese to the University of Montevallo on Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Although his passion in comedy is a longstanding one, writing an hour’s worth of material was no easy feat. Now, Franzese is determining what jokes will make the final cut by testing them out on college campuses across the country.

“The youth is the future. My fans now are going to be my fans forever,” said Franzese. “I wanted to see how the jokes worked, find new material, play around and have a good time. I’m forever this brain when it comes to pop culture, college-level pop culture.”

Franzese’s set began with an explanation behind his uniquely titled tour, “Yaaas, you’re amazing.” When it came to his attention that more often than not, when people nowadays use the adjective “amazing,” it’s to describe things Franzese considers banal, he was both frustrated and amused; but, Franzese sought to change

the connotation of the word among his younger audience.

“When I knew I was doing a college tour and it was specifically designed to reach students, I wanted to take ‘amazing’ away from the vernacular of just throwing it around and, hopefully, let it resonate just how amazing they truly are.”

The rest of Franzese’s set material consisted of anecdotes related to the antics of his “very Italian” mother, his fear of where he’d be in a modern-day Pompeii scenario and the risks of wearing New York Yankees merchandise while knowing nothing about the game of baseball.

However, interspersed between light-hearted jokes and snarky audience interactions were poignant moments of genuine advice from Franzese relating to media representation, leaving a legacy, body positivity and sexuality.

“I was always afraid of letting people know who I really was -- letting people know I was gay, or how I felt about certain things,” said Franzese, imparting upon the crowd the importance of being “loud and proud” about his sexuality, especially in today’s political climate. “As soon as I came out I felt the freedom to be able to talk about whatever,

and now I can’t shut up.”

In an exercise of improv comedy, Franzese transitioned his set into a rapid-fire question and answer session with the audience. Beyond addressing his current relationships with past co-stars Lindsay Lohan, Lizzy Caplan and Rachel McAdams, Franzese divulged other inconsequential details like his current favorite song: Fergie’s national anthem, what kind of sandwich he would be: an Italian sub, and whether he’s purple or gold: “I have no idea what you’re talking about. I’m a purple.”

The performance concluded with an informal induction of the crowd into the “House of Glen Coco,” as Franzese led the crowd in reciting an oath to treat both themselves and others nothing short of amazing.

Despite the fact that, yes, he doesn’t even go here, Franzese’s parting words to the students in the audience were to reach out to him in times of need.

“I really am a person who likes to engage with my fans, so tweet me, DM me if you ever have a question you want to ask me,” said Franzese. “I may answer, I may not. I just like receiving questions and talking to people, receiving the love and reciprocating.”

Mass communication students network at Media Day

By RIVER DOLAN



Students and professionals gather for Media Day.

Photo by Cara Anderson.

The Mass Communication program hosted Media Day on Feb. 21 at Strong Hall. The event was designed to allow students and local businesses to network, as well as to provide valuable information. The event consisted of three sections: a networking fair, a Q&A session, and a lunch.

“Media Day is an opportunity for the alumni and friends of the University to come to campus and network,” said Dr. Bruce Finklea, assistant professor of mass communication, adding that it is a great way for students to see “cool jobs you can get with a Mass Comm Degree.”

After the networking fair concluded there was a Q&A session, which was broadcast live and will be on the Mass Communications Youtube Channel. The session was designed to allow professionals in the field to shed light on their experiences. Each session had valuable information.

The companies, and alumni, in attendance helped to show the diversity of jobs within the mass communications field.

Kyle Jones, the Brand Content Manager for Books-A-Million and other local companies said he attended Media Day to give back to the college that gave him his start and to showcase that hard work, a good work ethic and being a generally friendly and likeable person can get you far in life.

Another attendee, Jacob Bobst, the Floor Director from ABC 33/40. He described his job simply as “the physical part of TV,” he keeps everything on the actual studio floor running smoothly.

Bobst says he came to Media Day for a similar reason to Jones, both were made aware of the event by Dr. Finklea, and wanted to come to UM so they could give back to their alma-mater.

“Don’t be afraid to do learn and do everything,” Bobst said emphasizing a point echoed by many in attendance, on how important it is to diversify in the mass communications field.

Media Day allowed UM students to connect with alums and gain valuable information that will help them in their fields.

TIPS FROM THE PROS

- Don’t be afraid to sell yourself and brag a bit
- Don’t be cocky
- People admire bravery
- Target your cover letter and resume
- Writing is a skill everyone wishes they had
- Exhibit an eagerness to learn
- Be a strong communicator
- Internships are incredibly important
- Become a “one-man-band” of skills in your field
- No one owes you a thing
- A portfolio is a necessity
- Have a passion for your work

UM athlete starts game on a high note

By JOJO MARKEL



Audiss, pictured above, is a member of UM’s cross country and track teams. Photo by Jojo Markel.

The University of Montevallo women’s lacrosse team delivered a decisive victory over Brenau College Saturday afternoon, with a final score of 23-2. The leading scorers were Nicole Pahnke with six goals and Jami Hudak with four.

This is the team’s highest-scoring game this season, tying Montevallo’s school record for most points scored against an opponent in a single match; before the game, however, technical malfunctions and UM athletic representative Thor Audiss took center stage.

Audiss led the match with a brilliant display of patriotism when the “The Star-Spangled Banner” stopped playing during the commencement ceremony: he sang the rest of song himself because he was working as announcer and happened to be holding a live microphone at the moment of interruption.

“Me being on mic, I felt like we should probably finish it. We were only half-way through, so I just felt like I

just had to start singing. And I do not have the best singing voice, you know? To preserve our country and stuff, you gotta finish it.”

Internet connectivity issues interrupted the playback for the national anthem during the opening ceremony of the game due to the audio being played from a Youtube video.

Across the field the players picked up the song, but the bleachers were quiet.

“It really didn’t seem like anybody else was joining in, but I couldn’t really tell because I had the speakers right next to me. But my boss said I did alright, so that’s all that matters,” says Audiss.

Audiss concluded his impromptu solo with a spirited, “Go Falcons!”

The University of Montevallo Women’s Lacrosse team’s next game is this Saturday, Feb. 24 at noon. at the Montevallo Track & Field/Lacrosse stadium, between Vacca Hall and the baseball field; admission is free.

By KATY JOHNSON

periods of time on campus, making it easy for students to access," Giddens said.

The Smart Market has burgers, breakfast sandwiches, sodas and even deep dish microwavable pizzas. The school has also provided a microwave near the machine to heat up any food purchased at the Smart Market.

Giddens also noted that the University hopes the Smart Market will be a more cost effective way of meeting the food needs of students. Sandwiches in the machine averaged around one to two dollars.

The food station that previously existed in the library was

goes to the university and is used to fund various scholarships on the campus,” Ellen said.

The Smart Market has received mixed results from students so far. Jessica Ledford, a Senior communication studies major, attempted to use the Smart Market but was unable to have a successful transaction.

“I couldn’t get the flex points to work. I wish there were more signs or something with instructions,” Ledford commented.

Only time will tell how much of an impact the Smart Market will have on the students and their needs.

How to use the Smart Market:

Flex Points: Slide your Student ID into the designated area located to the left of the door you are attempting to open and keep it there for at least 5 seconds, then pull it out. The light will turn on inside of machine and once you open it, anything you lift out will be charged to your account. If the item is placed back, it will not charge you for the item.

Credit Card: Create an account using the touch screen located at the end of the machine. Once you have registered your credit card and your finger print, use your finger print to open any door, using the pad located to the left of the door you are attempting to open.



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By SETH HAGAN



Photo by Seth Hagan

A new film is underway at the University of Montevallo led by a group of aspiring student filmmakers.

“The film is titled ‘Soon Enough’ and it revolves around a group of college students facing a zombie outbreak,” said Luis Abe Jim, 19, the film’s director. Jim, a freshman theatre major, has been a long-time fan of film and has his eyes set on the silver screen, hoping that this film will be a major stepping stone towards that direction.

“This project is special to me because it presents a milestone in my career. It’s the first feature-length film I’ve ever created,” Jim said, “I always knew the day would come where I would be making my first feature-length film but I didn’t know it would be this soon.”

Of course, big dreams entail big challenges and that is no different when it comes to the movie set. “Our biggest challenges so far involving the film are both funds and getting access to the shooting locations that we need, though we’ve been working through both of those fairly well,” said Cassandra Whitt, 18, the feature’s

writer and Unit Production Manager.

Although the feature is still in the early stage of production, the team is excited for the big debut. "I'm excited to be a part of it!" Said Katy Johnson, 22, an actress in the film, "I can relate a bit to my character, Isabella, and I can't wait for everyone to see her in action."

"We're very excited about the project, as it's the biggest project that either of us has taken on and we're feeling good about how it's going to turn out," Whitt said.

The team hopes their work will leave a lasting impact on the campus and inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

"I hope this film impacts the community here on campus in a positive way, showing that even as a freshman in college, you can do big things as long as you've got the determination and a great team behind you that believes in the project," Jim said.

The film is scheduled for release on several streaming sites around the fall of this year.